

1 _____ BILL NO. _____

2 INTRODUCED BY _____
3 (Primary Sponsor)

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT ALLOWING THE SNARING OF WOLVES BY LICENSED
5 TRAPPERS; AND AMENDING SECTION 87-1-901, MCA."

6
7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

8
9 **Section 1.** Section 87-1-901, MCA, is amended to read:

10 **"87-1-901. Gray wolf management -- rulemaking -- reporting.** (1) Except as provided in subsection
11 (2), the commission shall establish by rule hunting and trapping seasons for wolves. Trapping seasons must
12 allow for the use of snares by the holder of a trapping license. For game management purposes, the
13 commission may authorize:

- 14 (a) the issuance of more than one Class E-1 or Class E-2 wolf hunting license to an applicant; and
- 15 (b) the trapping or snaring of more than one wolf by the holder of a trapping license.

16 (2) The commission shall adopt rules to allow a landowner or the landowner's agent to take a wolf on
17 the landowner's property at any time without the purchase of a Class E-1 or Class E-2 wolf license when the
18 wolf is a potential threat to human safety, livestock, or dogs. The rules must:

19 (a) be consistent with the Montana gray wolf conservation and management plan and the adaptive
20 management principles of the commission and the department for the Montana gray wolf population;

21 (b) require a landowner or the landowner's agent who takes a wolf pursuant to this subsection (2) to
22 promptly report the taking to the department and to preserve the carcass of the wolf;

23 (c) establish a quota each year for the total number of wolves that may be taken pursuant to this
24 subsection (2); and

25 (d) allow the commission to issue a moratorium on the taking of wolves pursuant to this subsection (2)
26 before a quota is reached if the commission determines that circumstances require a limitation of the total
27 number of wolves taken.

28 (3) Public land permittees who have experienced livestock depredation must obtain a special kill

1 permit authorized in 87-5-131(3)(b) to take a wolf on public land without the purchase of a Class E-1 or Class
2 E-2 license.

3 (4) The department shall report annually to the environmental quality council regarding the
4 implementation of 87-5-131, 87-5-132, and this section."

5 - END -